

**TODAY and
TOMORROW**

A Fatal Decision

It is now evident that the Working Committee of the Indian National Congress is very anxious to seek a compromise with the British Government at any cost. Let us examine why the members of an organization that fought the very same British Government so long, and never thought of compromising on the issue of independence, is now eager for it. Is it because the new British proposals for India are a definite advance on the previous proposals, and they take India nearer the goal of independence to which the Congress has set its heart and soul? An emphatic "No" is the answer to this question, because it is abundantly clear that the new proposals do not go further than the Cripps' Proposals which the Congress rejected in 1942. Why then has the Congress Working Committee fallen flat for these new proposals?

Our answer is that some of the Indian leaders have been impressed by the successes of Britain and her allies in Europe, and recently in Burma, and as a result, have become convinced that the Anglo-Americans will certainly win the war against Nippon in the Pacific. They probably argue that if Britain wins the war then victorious Britain will treat India's demands with contempt, and consequently India's goal of independence will become far removed. Therefore the Congress leaders believe in exacting as much as possible from the unwilling British while yet there is a chance. Today Britain needs India's help in the war against Nippon. In return for India's help the Congress hopes to bring out certain concessions from the British.

Frankly speaking this line of argument is not worthy of Congress leaders who have so far spurned the fishes and loaves of office, and stood for nothing but complete independence for India. And also their reasoning is based on a false premise, namely, that Britain and her allies will win the war against Nippon.

India today is no longer a domestic issue of the British Empire. The peace and well-being of a country containing roughly one-fifth of the human race have become an international issue. Recently Reuter quoted a special article in the New York Times which says, "The Arabian oil or the question of Hongkong, Indian independence or the Status of Tangier can no longer be considered as problems of the British Empire. There is Russia to be reckoned with at every step".

Thus if India refuses to compromise with Britain she will be in a position to enlist the aid of Russia and other friendly powers to achieve the purpose. Non-compromise with the British will also help the Indians in East Asia to carry on the armed struggle for India's independence and thus keep the Indian problem in the forefront of world opinion.

As Netaji says if the members of Congress Working Committee come to a compromise with British imperialism by accepting Wavell's proposals, they are definitely letting down India's cause and the millions who have suffered for the love of the country.

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No Vital Changes Reported On East Asia War Fronts

Furious Fighting Raging On Pacific Areas; Foe Held Back In Pegu Sector

Tokyo, July 8 (Domei)—During the past week outside of the enemy landing on Balikpapan on July 1 no major changes took place on other fronts. Reports reveal that our forces are still continuing fierce fighting against American troops in the western part of the Cagayan Valley and north of Baguio in Luzon, while in Burma Nippon troops are holding in check British troops in the Pegu sector and lower reaches of the Sittang River.

Philippines Front: The United States 37th Division moving northward from the Salacsa and Balet Passes sector and part of the United States 11th Airborne Division from the Aparri sector seemed to have made a junction near Tuguegarao on June 26. Although the enemy is carrying on propaganda claiming that the battle of Luzon ended with this operation, Nippon forces in the western part of Cagayan Valley and north of Baguio are still continuing fierce fighting.

Southwest Pacific Front: Employing 250 landing barges with 7,000 troops enemy forces landed on Balikpapan July 2. Thereafter, the enemy reinforced his troops and at present there are roughly 15,000 enemy landed troops.

Meanwhile, the enemy gradually intensified his raids on Banjarmasin and on July 3 and 4 small enemy planes carried out incessant attacks.

Burma Front: No major changes have taken place on the Burma front during the past week and our forces still have secure hold of the entire sector of Loloan and Kalaw.

Meanwhile, in the Pegu mountains our forces have taken advantage of the mountainous terrain and completely halted enemy advance. In the lower reaches of the Sittang River there are approximately 20,000 enemy troops of the Indian Fifth Division and British 17th Division possessing 50 tanks and approximately 120 cannons. Although at present the enemy is attempting to cross the Sittang River, the rainy season in this sector is hampering operations of both the opposing forces.

NETAJI WEEK FETE

Today

Tea Party by Officers of the A.H.F. at Officers' Club, Bidadari at 6 p.m.

NETAJI LAYS FOUNDATION STONE FOR MEMORIAL TO HEROES OF INDIA FREEDOM

Touching Scene At Solemn And Impressive Ceremony Yesterday

An event of great importance which is destined to become a landmark in the history of the Indian independence movement in East Asia came off yesterday when the foundation stone for a memorial to the Indian Martyrs who laid down their lives in the cause of India's battle for freedom, was laid by His Excellency Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, and Supreme Commander of the Azad Hind Fauj, on the waterfront in Connaught Drive.

The function was attended by the Azad Hind Fauj and the Volunteers of the Ranj of Jhansi Regiment who were drawn up forming three sides of the square while a number of others were lined up on the road. The Balak Sena unit of the Indian National School and girls of the school also took part in the ceremony. High ranking Nippon officials, prominent I.N.A. officials, high officials of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, prominent I.I.L. officials, community leaders and leading members of the Indian public were among the others who participated in the function.

The ceremony began punctually at 11 o'clock with the arrival of H.E. Netaji Bose followed by the hoisting of the national flag and the band playing the National Anthem. Netaji then gave an address in Hindustani extolling the supreme sacrifice made by the martyrs.

Addressing the gathering Netaji said: Today is for us Indians a memorable day—a day that will live in our history for all time. We have assembled here today in a solemn ceremony

to pay our respectful homage to all those who have given their lives for the freedom of our Motherland, under the leadership of the Provisional Government. As you know, the Provisional Government of Azad Hind declared war on Britain and America on the 23rd of October, 1943, and the armed struggle for India's liberty was actually launched on the 4th of February, 1944.

Since then, we have, on several occasions, paid our homage to those heroes who died for the freedom of India. But this is the first occasion when we are erecting a memorial to our Glorious Dead. It is, I believe, in the fitness of things, that our first War Memorial should be put up in this city. Syonan is also the birthplace of the Azad Hind Fauj. Syonan is also the birthplace of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind.

It is from Syonan that the troops of the Azad Hind Fauj and members of other auxiliary organisations like the Azad Hind Dal marched to Burma, on their way to India. Furthermore, Syonan and Malai have contributed a large number of recruits for our Army and a large number of workers for our independence movement. That is why the Provisional Government of Azad Hind decided to erect the first memorial to the heroes of Azad Hind in this city, which was once the bulwark of the British Empire in the East and which became later the starting-point of India's last War of Independence.

There are occasions when thoughts lie too deep for words

(Continued on next page)

Netaji Entertains Leaders Here At Grand Tea Party

Syonan Mayor Assures Full Support To League, I.N.A. In Freedom Struggle

The highlight of the fourth day's programme in connection with the "Netaji Week" celebrations was a Tea Party held on Saturday, July 7, in Netaji's Bungalow when Netaji was host to His Excellency the Mayor of Syonan, the Deputy Mayor, Mr. M. Shinozaki, high Nippon Military and I.N.A. Officials, Ministers of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, prominent officials of the I.I.L., and community leaders.

Thanking the gathering for their presence, Netaji made a short speech stressing the duty of Indians towards their communities. Netaji said Indians here have to play a dual role, i.e., to take an active part in the common war of Asia's liberation and to discharge their duties as true citizens of this city. India's struggle for freedom is a part of the Greater East Asia war, pointed out Netaji.

Netaji stated that India and Syonan must cultivate friendly relations with the other sister communities and added that he was quite happy to find all community leaders present at the function. He assured the whole-hearted co-operation of Indians here with the Authorities and other communities to bring the war of Greater East Asia to successful conclusion. Netaji once again thanked all those present for their attendance.

His Excellency the Mayor, in his reply, said that the Municipality of Syonan is ready to give all assistance to the Indian National Army and the Indian Independence League.

Mr. G. H. Kiat thanked Netaji on behalf of other communities. Mr. Kiat said that Netaji's perseverance in the fight for India's freedom must be a lesson to all and added that the various communities in Syonan are willing to give the fullest operation in Netaji's endeavour. He said that they all look upon Netaji with admiration and he hoped that, sooner or later, Netaji's mission will be crowned with success.

Netaji Assured Of Johore Indians' Unstinted Support At Mass Meeting

The celebration of Netaji Week in Johore Bharu reached a climax yesterday evening, when Netaji Bose addressed a mammoth gathering of Indians at the Supreme Court Padang there.

Before attending the mass meeting Netaji had tea with the Officers of the A.H.F. Camp.

Addressing the gathering Netaji said that he visited Johore Bharu six months ago and between then and now a lot of changes had taken place in the political horizon. Germany had fallen, but it had not brought peace in Europe. The Anglo-Americans and Russians are at loggerheads as to who should have more control over Europe.

In Asia also, the Americans and the Russians are coming into conflict over China. Netaji pointed out that whatever happened in Europe or Asia, Indians must continue their struggle for the complete independence of India and to achieve that objective they should pay the maximum sacrifice. Indians should make more sacrifices than what they had been doing and if that is done by every Indian, success could be guaranteed.

When Netaji put the question whether all of them were prepared to follow him, a unanimous 'YES' came from the audience.

With the singing of the National Anthem, the meeting ended.

NETAJI WEEK FETE Tomorrow

Meeting of Women's Section at I.I.L. Syonan Branch 6 p.m. Free Cinema Show at Indo Gekijo at 7 p.m.

Unique Issued On Evacuation Transport

Evacuees from Syonan, who are using their own private transport to go up-country, can use their own cars provided they are under one ton in weight, states Mr. M. Shinozaki, the Kosei-ka Cho, Syonan Tokubetsu-shi, in a communique issued to the Press.

Cars converted into vans can be used also, provided they weigh under one ton. Lorries are not permitted, it is stated. This rule applies (the communique goes on) to those already owning the above-mentioned transport and not to those purchasing such vehicles at this time.

Permission should, however, be obtained from the Registrar of Vehicles at Middle Road, it is added.

Office Workers Volunteer For Free Labour Service

Syonan, July 7 (Domei)—Fully aware of the critical war situation and the dark shadow of invasion that shrouds Syonan today, thousands of local office workers including those employed in Nippon concerns have volunteered for labour service with various military units here in order to further consolidate the defence structure of the fortress-city. The first batch of volunteer workers was dispatched to several military zones early this morning for a five-day construction job, after which they will be relieved by a second batch.

Comprising office workers of all communities including personnel of the auxiliary police, the volunteer labourers have received permission from their respective offices to take leave during the period they work in the military zones. In deep appreciation of their offer to work the military authorities concerned are granting special privileges to workers who have banded themselves into an organisation known as "Special Labour Service Corps."

Evacuation Welfare Bodies Being Set Up

Syonan, July 7 (Domei)—Tasked with the mission of looking after the welfare and interests of all evacuees, evacuation welfare committees will be immediately set up in each up-country state. This was unanimously decided at a meeting of delegates from all parts of Malai which met yesterday.

The suggestion put forth by Mr. G. H. Kiat, Syonan delegate from the Kosei section, was warmly supported by Mr. M. Shinozaki, Kosei-ka Cho, and others.

Referring to these committees, the Rev. Father M. O'Connell, head of the Roman Catholic Church in Malai, declared their immediate establishment will heighten the confidence of the people in the evacuation plan. Rev. Father O'Connell, added that on behalf of the different delegates present from the religious side, they were convinced of the success of the evacuation scheme. Despite difficulties ahead, all delegates from up-country had given their fullest assurance that they would do their very best for the evacuees and look after them like their own people, he said.

Surface Units Sink Foe Ship Off Balik Papan

Nippon Base In The South-West Pacific, July 9 (Domei)—A Nippon small surface craft unit in the Balik Papan sector Wednesday night, July 7, raided an enemy convoy in Bal'k Papan anchorage and instantaneously sank one 3,000-ton transport and also heavily damaged one 8,000-ton transport.

Netaji Lays Foundation Stone For Memorial At Most Solemn Ceremony

(Continued from previous page)

and this is one of those solemn and sacred occasions. Let us, therefore, pay our respectful homage to the immortal dead in solemn silence. And, while paying our homage, let us pray to the Almighty Father to give us strength to continue and complete the work that our heroes left unfinished. Their immortal souls are with us today to inspire us to greater deeds of heroism and valour. With God's blessings and with the inspiration given us by our heroes, let us continue the struggle without faltering, and without compromising, until the complete independence of India is achieved. And let us have unshakable confidence in our final victory, as well as unflinching determination to achieve that victory, in spite of all difficulties and obstacles—trials and tribulations.

Before I conclude, let me offer my sincerest thanks to friends belonging to other nationalities and communities who are here to participate in this solemn ceremony.

Netaji then laid the foundation stone by placing the marble plaque bearing the inscription in position on the brick-built foundation, with the flag standing at half mast.

An intense moment followed when the whole parade was brought to attention and the two minutes' silence was observed

with the guard of honour standing with arms reversed.

Wreaths were placed next. Led by Netaji the others laid wreaths in the following order: H.E. N. Raghavan (Provisional Government of Azad Hind), Deputy Chief of Staff (Supreme Command), representative of the Okabutai, representative of the Garrison Headquarters, representative of Syonan Municipality, Hikari Kikan, Major-General M. Z. Kiani, Lt.-Col. I. J. Kiani, Col. G. R. Nagar, Lt.-Col. C. J. Stracey, Dr. M. K. Lukshumeyah, Sri M. K. Chidambaram, Dr. C. J. Paglar (Eurasian Community leader), Messrs. Wassiamull Assomull & Co., Messrs. K. A. J. Chottimall, Trustee of Chettiar Temple, Maganlal Nagindas & Co., Mrs. M. K. Chidambaram, Sri C. R. V. T. Chidambaram Chettiar, Mr. M. G. Hewa, Mrs. Jumadas, Sri Ram Tawari, Sri N. Karuppiyah, V. Shanmugam Chettiar, Sri Hurdit Singh, Sri B. Govindasamy Chettiar, Sri Sohan Singh, Sri O. Ramasamy Nadar, Janab K. M. Abdul Razak, S. Sato, M. S. Ally & Co., Gian Singh & Co., and Janab Amir Mohamed Khan.

With three salvoes of feu de joie by the guard-of-honour followed by the singing of the National Anthem, with the flag flying full mast, the ceremony came to an end amidst shouts of "Azad Hind ke shaheedon ki"—"Jai".

Russia's Clever Moves To Oust Britain From Mediterranean Area

Lisbon, July 6 (Domei)—Declaring that there is nothing strange in this week's Russian request for a place in the conference to settle the future status of Tangiers, a special "New York Times" dispatch from London today reported that Russia's recent marked interest in Tangiers and the Dardanelles all fall within Russia's carefully-calculated ambition of securing complete domination over the Mediterranean area.

The Russian representation concerning Tangiers, the dispatch said, may appear at a glance to be a small matter but its significance assumes striking proportions when one considers there is a historic impulse which has always driven the Russians toward the Mediterranean.

The Russians, the dispatch continued, have keenly followed developments in the Mediterranean sphere ever since Peter the Great, and the only reason that they never got there before is mainly because the British have barred the way.

Today, however, the British are weak and the Russians know it. It appears that one of the great, new historic developments of this period is the transformation of the Mediterranean area, the dispatch said.

Reviewing Russia's diplomatic moves in the Mediterranean area during the past weeks, the dispatch pointed out that Russia's interests have not been confined to Tangiers and the Dardanelles alone but also a the Balkans, Trieste, Levant, Italy, France and Spain.

With specific reference to Trieste the dispatch said that Trieste is the only really good port on the eastern shores of the Adriatic which provides an

outlet from the hinterland that embraces South-eastern Europe and Yugoslavia. Russia is in command of South-eastern Europe, and only this week she acquired Ruthenia.

The Yugoslav Government which is seeking to control Trieste is Communist, it cited. "If Trieste were under Russian influence, even indirectly, you would radically alter the balance of power in South-eastern Europe and the Balkans," the dispatch said. "Already, with the exception of Greece, the Balkans are under Russian domination. The next step had to be a move toward the Dardanelles and it is being made now."

The Russians are anxious to modify the Montreux Convention which gives Turkey the right to fortify and control the Dardanelles for 20 years, as the Russians intend to have a large merchant fleet going to and from the Mediterranean to the Black Sea. They need a navy to protect this maritime fleet, and the navy must have free access to the Dardanelles.

The dispatch said that historically, the clash of power politics in the Mediterranean has pivoted around the Dardanelles with the Russians seeking to get through and the British barring the way.

From the eastern end of the Mediterranean, the Russians have now swung their attention to Tangiers, one of the western gateways to the Mediterranean. The reason for this is chiefly that the Russians, economically, politically and strategically, are concerned about the status of the Mediterranean.

The Russia of today, the dispatch went on, is involved in South-eastern Europe, the

Rani Jhansi Drama Draws Record Crowd At Kokaido

The Syonan Kokaido drew a record crowd on Saturday evening when the Volunteers of the Rani of Jhansi Regiment staged the "Life of Rani Lakshmi Bai," portraying the heroic deeds of the Rani of Jhansi in the first war of Indian independence in 1857.

The drama was staged in connection with Netaji Week, the celebration of which began on Wednesday last.

The curtain went up with the arrival of His Excellency Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose who, on his arrival, was received by Captain Mrs. M. S. Thaver, the Commandant of the Camp.

The play went with a full swing right from the start without any hitch and was thoroughly enjoyed by the crowd who showed their undiminished appreciation with rounds of applause, although the play had been staged in the recent past no less than half a dozen times.

The numerous contributors to the play gave an excellent account of themselves, every one of them displaying much improved technique and finesse.

The items of national songs given by the Volunteers at intervals were equally well received by the crowd.

Captain Thaver thanked Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose for his presence and all those who have helped to make the performance a success.

French Gov't's Big Move To End Levant Crisis

Zurich, July 7 (Domei)—Apparently realizing the futility of further resisting Levantine demands, General Etienne Byenet, French Delegate-General in Levant, today announced that the French Government has conceded to handing over to the Syrian and Lebanese governments the command of between 25,000 and 30,000 local Levies known as "troupes speciales," according to a Beirut dispatch.

The French announcement was regarded as a big move toward ending the Levant crisis.

Balkans and reaches out far in many directions. She lies astride the whole British Empire from the Mediterranean to the China Seas.

The status of Tangiers, hence, can no longer be considered by the Russians to be a problem solely concerning the British Empire.

"The best hope from the viewpoint of London is not to make it a struggle of Great Britain against Russia as in the past, for this time Russia is much stronger, but to deal with each point of discussion as an international problem—and in a new small world that is what they are, and that is where the United States comes in the "New York Times" dispatch said.

WEDDING

The wedding of Mr. Simon Ratnaswamy (Clerk, Naval Base, Syonan), second son of Mr. and Mrs. Simon of Tinnevely District South India, to Miss Martha Selvam Devavaram, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Devavaram, will take place on Wednesday, July 11th, 2605, at the Lee Premises, Pandan, Johore Bahru, at which Rev. E. G. Proctor of the Anglican Church will officiate. Friends and relatives are cordially invited.

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Upcountry Evacuation Delegates Leave Syonan

Syonan, July 9 (Domei)—Completing its held here relating to the evacuation of the non-essential population of Syonan shortly, 14 delegates from different parts of Malai and one from Djawa who met local community leaders, City Office officials and Military Administration representatives in frank discussions which lasted two days, wound up deliberations on Saturday when the conference was officially brought to a close.

The delegates discussed minor details in the evacuation plan privately yesterday and left Syonan this afternoon to return to their respective districts.

One and all declared in a farewell interview that the object of the conference which was to complete all plans for the evacuation of the civilian populace from Syonan and the question of their accommodation and care upcountry had been thoroughly gone into and full agreement was reached on all points.

Delegates stressed their confidence in the success of the evacuation scheme and stated its fulfilment would further strengthen Syonan's impregnable defence.

Arab Community Here Decides To Evacuate

Syonan, July 9 (Domei)—Coming close on the heels of the news that local Swiss community will evacuate, Syonan's Arab community is likewise following suit and the entire community totalling nearly 3,000 will shortly settle down in other parts of the peninsula disclosed Mr. S. M. Alkaff, president of the Arab Welfare Association, in an interview yesterday.

Mr. Alkaff stated he was giving members of his community a lead and was evacuating very shortly to Malacca.

Fund For Welfare Of Evacuees Opened Here

Syonan, July 7 (Domei)—A Syonan Evacuees' Fund has been opened in this city with the assistance of the various community welfare associations and the Auxiliary Police Association, it was disclosed yesterday at the meeting of the Evacuation Committee. Money will be collected immediately for this fund which will be utilized in an appropriate manner by the authorities for the relief of all evacuees.

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